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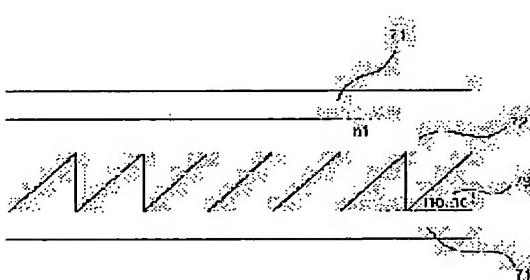
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(54) HOLOGRAPHIC OPTICAL ELEMENT AND OPTICAL PICKUP DEVICE UTILIZING THE SAME

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To efficiently utilize light to either disk, in an optical pickup device which can be used commonly to different disks.

SOLUTION: The holographic optical element is formed by closely sticking an isotropic medium 72 to birefringence mediums 73 formed in a saw-toothed shape. The refractive index of any one birefringence medium 73 with respect to light having a specific wavelength is specified to be equal to the refractive index of the isotropic medium 72 with respect to light having the same wavelength. Therefore, an optical path of a transmitted light beam is selected by the wavelength and the polarization direction of an incident light beam.



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